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R E P O R T

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR

1953.



ROBERT H. CLAYTON, M.B., B.S., B.Hy., D.P.H.

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health for the Rural District
of Mildenhall in the County of West Suffolk for the
year ending 31st December, 1953.

Public Health Offices,
8, Whiting Street,
Bury St. Edmunds.

July 1954.

To:-

The Chairman and Members of the
Rural District Council of Mildenhall.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies & Gentlemen,

Herewith I beg to submit for your favourable consideration my eighteenth Annual Report as Medical Officer of Health, being that for the year ended 31st December, 1953, and acknowledge, with gratitude, the consideration of the Chairman and all members of the Public Health Committee. My thanks are due also to my colleagues for their assistance in the compilation of this report and for their help throughout the year.

I also acknowledge, with thanks, the able co-operation throughout the year of Dr. D. A. McCracken, the County Medical Officer of Health, West Suffolk.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies & Gentlemen,
Your obedient servant,

ROBERT H. CLAYTON.

Medical Officer of Health.

Public Health Officers of the Authority.

(a) Medical - One part-time Medical Officer of Health,

ROBERT H. CLAYTON, M.B., B.S., B.Hy.,
D.P.H. (Durham). Cert. Mental Deficiency
and Allied Subjects (London), appointed in 1936.

This Officer does not engage in private practice but holds in addition the following appointments:-

Medical Officer of Health, Newmarket U.D.C.) Appointed 1st July, 1936.
 Thingoe R.D.C.)
 Cosford R.D.C. " 1st Feb. 1937.
 The dwastre R.D.C. " 1st July, 1938.

(b) Others - One Sanitary Inspector

H. W. TROTTER, Cert.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.,
Meat and Other Foods Certificate R.S.I.,
appointed in 1935, also Building Surveyor.

One Additional Sanitary Inspector,
EDWARD BANKS, Cert.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.,
Meat and Other Foods Certificate R.S.I.,
appointed 21st April, 1947.

Public Health Committee.

Rev. F. Eley	..	..	..	..	Chairman.
Mr. W. G. Halford	..	..	..	..	Vice-Chairman.
Mr. F. L. Bennett.					Mr. B. A. M. Lingwood.
Mrs. M. Dixon.					Mr. W. J. Lock.
Mr. J. A. Dow.					Mr. R. Morley.
Rev. W. D. Jackson.					Mr. A. Rolph.
Mr. H. J. Kidd.					
<u>Ex-Officio.</u>					
Rev. J. L. Sowdon, J.P.,					Chairman of the Council.



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SECTION A.
STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

1. GENERAL STATISTICS.	Area	86,759 acres.
Registrar General's estimate of the resident population	1953. (1952) 22,380 (24,980)	(1951) (21,700)
Number of inhabited houses at end of year according to Rate Book ..	4,455 (4,415)	(4,345)
Rateable Value	£73,410 (£68,960)	(£64,952)
Sum represented by a Penny Rate ..	£290 (£272)	(£254)

2. EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR.

	Total.			Male.			Female.		
	1953	(1952)	(1951)	1953	(1952)	(1951)	1953	(1952)	(1951)
Live Births.									
Legitimate.	400	(324)	(316)	192	(158)	(162)	208	(165)	(154)
Illegitimate.	19	(15)	(22)	14	(7)	(11)	5	(8)	(11)
Stillbirths.									
Legitimate.	5	(8)	(10)	2	5	4	3	3	6
Illegitimate.	1	(1)	(Nil)	Nil	(Nil)	(Nil)	1	(1)	(Nil)
Deaths.	174	(154)	(169)	102	(75)	(74)	72	(79)	(95)
Deaths under one year.	13	(9)	(6)	4	(4)	(1)	9	(5)	(5)

Birth Rate. (Live Births per 1000 population).

Mildenhall.
1953 (1952)(1951)

England & Wales
1953 (1952)(1951)

Comparability Factor, Births.

18.7 (13.6)(15.6)

15.5 (15.3)(15.5)

Corrected Birth Rate.

1.70 (1.7)(1.08)

Stillbirth Rate per 1000 population.

31.8 (23.1)(16.8)

Stillbirth Rate per 1000 total (live and still) births.

0.27 (0.36)(0.46)

0.35 (0.35)(0.36)

Death Rate per 1000 resident population.

14.1 (25.9)(28.7)

22.4 (22.6)

Comparability Factor, Deaths.

7.8 (6.2) (7.8)

Corrected Death Rate.

1.38 (1.38)(0.96)

Death Rate of Infants

10.7 (8.5) (7.5)

under 1 year. All infants per 1000 live births.

31.0 (26.5)(17.8)

26.8 (27.6)(30)

Legitimate Infants per 1000

legitimate births.

Illegitimate Infants per 1000

Illegitimate births.

The 13 deaths under 1 year were all legitimate infants save 1 female who was one of 7 female and 2 male infants who died under 4 weeks of age:-

Males. 2 hours. Prematurity (7 months pregnancy).

4 days. Cerebral Haemorrhage following normal birth delivery.

2 months. Acute Broncho-Pneumonia.

8 months. Tuberculous broncho-pneumonia & meningitis.

Females. 7 hours. Prematurity.

17 hours. Foetal erythro-blastosis.

1 day. Cerebral Haemorrhage, precipitate delivery, prematurity.

1 day. Prematurity (28 weeks).

2 days. Hydrocephalus & meningo-myelocele.

2 days. Prematurity.

3 days. Eight weeks prematurity.

1 month. Meningococcal septicaemia, Suprarenal haemorrhage.

11 months. Accidentally suffocated in cot.

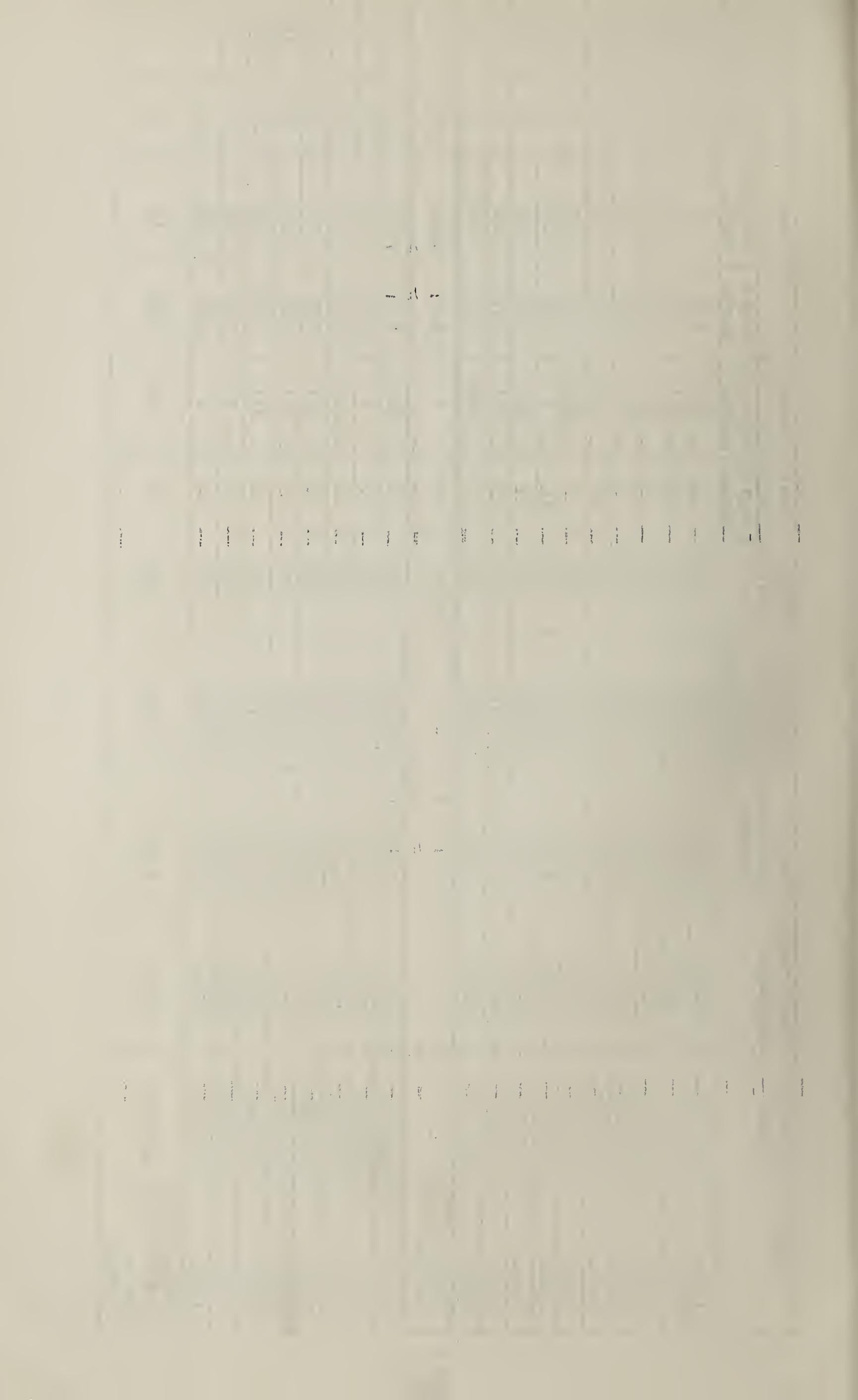
The only other death in the nonage was that of a boy aged 4 years, drowned in a water tank.

The following table gives the causes and the number of deaths occurring at the various age groups. The totals correspond with the Registrar General's figures.

As in last year's report the deaths have been classified to conform with implementation of the World Health Organisation Nomenclature Regulations, 1948 - these regulations being set out on pages 371-376 of the International Statistical Classification of Diseases, Injuries and Causes of Death, 1948.

CAUSES.	Deaths at the sub-joined ages of "RESIDENTS" whether occurring in or beyond the District.								TOTAL Registrar General's figures.
	Under 1 year.	1 to 4 years.	5 to 14 years.	15 to 24 years.	25 to 44 years.	45 to 64 years.	65 to 74 years.	75 years & over.	
M. = Males. F. = Females.									
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.
2. Tuberculosis, Other.	1 - - - -	- - - -	- - - -	- - - -	- - - -	1 - - - -	- - - -	- - - -	2 - -
6. Meningococcal infections.	- 1 - - -	- - - -	- - - -	- - - -	- - - -	- - - -	- - - -	- - - -	1 - 1
9. Other infective & parasitic diseases.	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	1 -	1 -
10. Malignant neoplasm, Stomach.	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	2 1 - - -	1 - - -	1 1 3	
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus.	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	2 - - - -	- - - - -	2 - -	
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast.	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	2 - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	2 - 2
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus.	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	1 -	1 -
14. Other malignant & lymphatic neoplasms	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	1 1 1 1	2 1 5 1	9 4			
15. Leukaemia, Aleukaemia.	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	1 - - -	1 - - -	1 - - -	1 - - -	2 1	
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system.	1 - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	1 5 - 4 1 3 7	13 9			
18. Coronary disease, angina.	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	1 - - -	1 1 4 2 6 5	12 8			
19. Hypertension with heart disease.	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	3 - - 3	3 3	3 3	
20. Other heart disease.	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	1 1 4 6 11 10	16 17			
21. Other circulatory disease.	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	1 2 - 1 2 2	3 5			
22. Influenza.	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	1 - 1 2	2 2		
23. Pneumonia.	1 - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	1 - 2 1	4 1		
24. Bronchitis.	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	3 - 2 1 2	7 1			
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum.	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	1 - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	1 -	
27. Gastritis, enteritis & diarrhoea	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	1 - - - -	- - - - -	- - 1	
29. Hyperplasia of prostate.	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	1 - 1 -	2 -		
31. Congenital malformations.	- 1 - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- 1	
32. Other defined & ill-defined diseases	1 6 - - -	- - - - -	1 - - -	1 - - -	1 - - -	6 2	10 8		
33. Motor accidents.	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	4 - - -	1 1 - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	5 1	
34. All other accidents	- 1 1 - -	- - - - -	2 - - -	1 - - -	1 - - -	- - - - -	1	5 2	
35. Suicide.	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	1 - - -	1 - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	2 -	
Males.	4 - 1 -	- - -	3 - 11 -	- 19 -	- 23 - 41 -	-	102 -		
Females.	- 9 - -	- - -	- - - -	- 3 -	- 12 - 12 - 36 -	-	- 72 -		

Year.	Rateable Value.	Penny Product.	No. of Inhabited Houses.	Registrar General's Estimate Population.	Total Deaths.	Deaths under One Year.	Births.		Stillbirths.
							Legit- imate.	Illegit- imate.	
1936.	£38,063	£167	3,406	12,290	174	8	176	8	9
1937.	£42,902	£174	3,507	12,370	165	14	Nil	221	7
1938.	£43,405	£174	3,500	12,440	134	6	Nil	170	5
1939.	£44,038	£188	3,528	12,700	140	7	Nil	185	5
1940.	£45,912	£191	3,968	12,970	171	11	Nil	197	5
1941.	£49,422	£206	3,623	13,410	168	5	Nil	209	15
1942.	£53,231	£221	3,628	12,660	162	10	1	265	11
1943.	£57,789	£241	3,627	12,820	144	7	Nil	206	10
1944.	£53,814	£208	3,625	13,370	146	13	Nil	247	18
1945.	£52,014	£190	3,631	12,980	163	9	Nil	227	36
DECADE TOTALS.	-	-	-	1,567	90	1	2,103	120	58
1946.	£52,757	£203	3,638	12,690	149	9	Nil	223	27
1947.	£53,492	£206	3,687	13,107	136	9	1	299	24
1948.	£59,631	£223	4,085	14,210	131	11	Nil	291	10
1949.	£62,963	£237	4,214	14,390	168	9	Nil	285	11
1950.	£63,552	£245	4,276	15,390	172	8	Nil	280	15
1951.	£64,952	£254	4,346	21,700	169	6	Nil	316	22
1952.	£68,960	£272	4,415	24,980	154	8	1	324	15
1953.	£73,410	£290	4,455	22,380	174	12	1	400	19
Compare with 1936 to 1945 Decade Average.		£196	3,604	12,801	157	9	0.1	210	12
									5.8 0.6



From the foregoing and subsequent pages the following, inter alia, will be noted:-

During 1953 the population decreased by 2,600 persons, or 10.4% - this, however, does not indicate a rapidly changing civilian population.

The number of inhabited houses, 4,455, represents an average of one house for 5.0 persons throughout the District.

The total number of Council Houses provided, 569, is approximately 13% of the total houses in the District and represents 25.4 Council houses provided per 1000 population.

The Pre-War Council houses totalling 266 represented 11.9 Council houses per 1000 population.

The 303 Post-War houses provided represented 13.5 houses per 1000 population.

The Council houses completed during 1953 totalling 42, represented 1.9 Council houses per 1000 population.

The Rateable Value has reached a new high figure of £73,410, as has the sum represented by a penny rate, £290. These figures when compared with the 1936-1945 Decade Average of £48,059 and £196 respectively, indicate a considerable change in the financial position of the District and also explains how the Council is helped to meet the great demands made upon it by its Housing, Water and Sewerage Programmes.

The Live Births reached a new record high figure during 1953, totalling 419, which is a Crude Birth Rate of 18.7 and a Corrected Birth Rate of 31.8 per 1000 population. Included in these 419 births were 19 illegitimate births; which is less than one per 1000 population.

The total number of deaths (174) was 20 more than in the previous year and the Crude Death Rate therefore rose from 6.2 to 7.8 per 1000 but was still well below the 11.4 rate for England and Wales, as also was our Corrected Death Rate of 10.7.

Of the 13 deaths of infants under a year it will be noted that all but 4 occurred within the first four days of life - it will also be noted that no other person died under the age of 21 years save one boy four years old, who was accidentally drowned.

Recorded in the Causes of Death Table are two Tuberculosis (Respiratory) and one Tuberculosis (Other) deaths. It is also recorded that 67 persons remained on the Tuberculosis Register at the end of 1953, a rate of 3.0 persons per 1000 population, of which 51 (2.3) per 1000 population) were Pulmonary, and 16 (0.7 per 1000 population) were Non-Pulmonary. The only other Infectious Disease deaths (apart from Pneumonia) recorded were those of a one month old girl from Meningococcal Septicaemia and a 75 year old man from Infective Hepatitis - this despite the fact that 322 cases of Measles were notified during the year and the total number of infectious disease cases notified was 512.

There is still a most distressing and quite often unnecessary loss of useful lives through accidental causes - Road Traffic Accidents in 1953 killed men aged 31, 32, 33, 44 and 63 and one lady aged 57, who were residents of our District.

Once again the excellent facilities now available to our residents at the Newmarket General Hospital should be noted with great satisfaction.

The number of houses with a piped water supply throughout the District increased by 172 during 1953 so that 83% of the houses throughout the Rural District had a piped water supply by the end of the year.

Chemical and bacteriological analysis reports were very satisfactory on all the public water supplies - none of which showed any indication of Plumbo solvency.

759 houses (17% of the total number of inhabited houses) had their drains connected and discharging into modern sewage disposal works by the end of 1953.

It is hoped that permission will speedily be obtained to allow sewage works to be provided for the parishes of Mildenhall and Lakenheath, where the need is indeed urgent.

The refuse collection service was extended so that each parish has a twice monthly collection save at Mildenhall, Brandon and Lakenheath where the collection is weekly.

Waste paper and other materials salvaged showed an appreciable increase in amount, if not in value, during 1953.

SECTION B.
GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

(a) LABORATORY FACILITIES. The Emergency Public Health Laboratory, Tennis Court Road, Cambridge, under the directorship of Dr.R.M.Fry, provides an excellent bacteriological service and most readily discusses and advises on any epidemiological or similar problem.

Dr.S.Greenburgh, Public Analyst, Tenison Road, Cambridge, gives a similar, efficient, helpful service when chemical analyses are required.

(b) AMBULANCE FACILITIES. The agency with the Suffolk Branch of the Red Cross Society terminated at the request of the Society in July 1953. The services subsequently have been provided directly by the County Council under the direction of Dr.D.A.McCracken, the County Medical Officer of Health.

(c) NURSING IN THE HOME. The West Suffolk County Council District Nurse-Midwives carry out these duties.

(d) CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES. Air Vice-Marshall T.K.Kelly, Medical Superintendent, has kindly supplied the following list of Out-Patient Clinics held at Newmarket General Hospital:-

CLINIC.	DAY.	TIME.	CONSULTANT.
MEDICAL.	Tuesday.	2 p.m.	Dr.R.Arden Jones, M.B., M.R.C.P.
	Wednesday.	"	" " " "
	Alt.Wednesdays.	"	Dr.L.Martin, M.D., F.R.C.P.
SURGICAL.	Tuesday.	10.30 a.m.	Mr.J.E.Rowlands, F.R.C.S.E.
	Friday.	2 p.m.	
ORTHOPAEDIC.	Tuesday.	10.30 a.m.	Mr.E.S.Jamieson, F.R.C.S.E.
	Friday.	2 p.m.	" " " "
	Alt.Saturdays.	10.15 a.m. (Reserved for Schoolchildren)	" " " " "
GYNAECOLOGY.	Alt.Mondays.	2 p.m.	Mr.O.Lloyd, F.R.C.O.G.
	Friday.	9.30 a.m.	Mr.J.Hesketh, M.R.C.O.G.
ANTE-NATAL.	Tuesday.	10 a.m.	
	Tuesday.	2 p.m. (BOOKING CLINIC ONLY)	
	Thursday.	10 a.m.	
E.N.T.	Monday.	10 a.m.	Mr.R.Williamson, M.B, Ch, D.L.O.
	Wednesday.	"	
OPHTHALMIC.	Tuesday.	2 p.m.	Miss M.Perrers Taylor, M.R.C.S.
	"	"	L.R.C.P., D.O.M.S.
(4th Tuesday each month reserved for schoolchildren)			Miss Kathleen Long, F.R.C.S.
2nd Monday		2 p.m.	D.O.M.S.
(Reserved for Schoolchildren)			Miss Kathleen Long.
CHEST (T.B.) Consultations.			
Refills.	Thursday.	2 p.m.	Dr.C.P.Hay, M.B., M.R.C.P.
DERMATOLOGY.	1st, 2nd, 4th Thurs.	10 a.m.	Dr.C.H.Whittle, F.R.C.P.
PAEDIATRICS.	2nd, 4th Sat.	10 a.m.	Dr.D.Gairdner, D.M., F.R.C.P.
PHYSICAL MEDICINE.	Wednesday.	9.30 a.m.	Dr.F.W.Fell.
	1st, 2nd, 3rd Thurs.	2 p.m.	" " " "

X-RAY DEPARTMENT. (Dr.F.Berridge & Dr.D.Gregg, Consultant Radiologists). The X-Ray Department is open from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. on week-days & from 9 a.m.-12 noon on Saturdays. Facilities are also available for acute emergency cases at other times. Patients must report to the Out-Patient Dept. before proceeding to the X-Ray Department.

PATHOLOGY LABORATORY. (Dr.J.H.Dean, M.D., Consultant Pathologist). This Dept. is open from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. on week-days and 9 a.m.-12 noon on Saturdays. Staff is available for acute emergency work at other times. Patients must report to the Out-Patient Dept. before proceeding to the Pathology Laboratory.

(e) HOSPITALS. Of the 419 births in 1953 to Mildenhall Residents 72 (17%) occurred at the Newmarket General Hospital.

Of the 174 deaths, 77 occurred outside the District. Of these, 70 took place at hospitals as under:-

17 St.Mary's Hosp., Bury St.Ed's.	1 Royal Air Force Hosp, Ely.
15 West Suffolk Gt.Hosp, Bury St.Ed's.	1 Jenny Lind Hosp, Norwich.
12 Newmarket Gt.Hos, Newmarket.	1 Harwich & Dist.Hosp, Dovercourt.
6 Addenbrooke's Hosp, Cambridge.	1 Lydney & Dist.Hosp, Lydney.
5 Walnuttree Hosp, Sudbury.	1 Maternity Hosp, Cambridge.
4 U.S.Air Force Hosp, Arrington.	1 Ely Isolation Hosp, Ely.
3 Thetford Cottage Hosp.	
2 Hill End Hosp, St.Albans.	

SECTION C.
SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

1. (i) WATER. The Council owns four piped supply schemes in this area (1, 2, 3 & 4 below). There are no public standpipes in the area.

1. * Eriswell Bore and Reservoir which supplied:-

	Houses.			Houses supplied for first time during		
	1953	1952	1951.	1953.	1952.	1951.
Mildenhall	943	925	877	18	48	53
Lakenheath	513	495	489	18	6	-
Eriswell	74	69	69	5	-	-
Freckenham	107	112	110	-	2	6
Worlington	101	91	87	10	4	3
Barton Mills	132	116	106	16	10	-

2. Ø Brandon Well and Reservoir which supply:-

Brandon	856	864	853	-	11	39
Santon Downham	1	-	-	1	-	-

3. Ø Moulton Pore and Tower which supply:-

Moulton	160	143	139	17	4	-
Gazeley	100	98	96	2	2	3
Dalham	65	51	51	14	-	-
Kentford	67	66	64	1	2	-
Red Lodge	55	62	58	-	4	1
Herringswell	7	16	6	-	10	-

4. ♀ Tuddenham Bore and Tower which supply:-

Tuddenham	77	72	34	5	38	29
Icklingham	85	61	-	24	61	-
Herringswell	21	-	-	21	-	-
Cavenham	8	-	-	8	-	-

5. From the Mains of the Ely R.D.C.
at Beck Row and

West Row	80	54	54	26	-	14
	<u>3,452</u>	<u>3,295</u>	<u>3,093</u>	<u>186</u>	<u>202</u>	<u>148</u>

Private Piped Supplies

Cavenham	5	5	5	-	-	-
Elveden	109	101	101	8	-	-
Higham	72	76	72	-	4	2
Santon Downham	69	67	67	2	-	-
Worlington	4	-	-	4	-	-
Wangford	5	-	-	5	-	-
	<u>3,716</u>	<u>3,544</u>	<u>3,338</u>	<u>205</u>	<u>206</u>	<u>150</u>

* In addition a supply is given to the R.A.F. Station, Lakenheath, and the Labour Camp attached.

Ø In addition a bulk supply is given to the Swaffham R.D.C. in respect of the parish of Weeting.

Ø In addition a bulk supply is given to the Newmarket R.D.C. in respect of the parish of Kennett.

♀ The Tuddenham Bore and Tower is the property of the Air Ministry but worked by the Council. Towards the close of the year the Ministry suggested opening up negotiations with a view to the Council purchasing same and these are now proceeding. In addition to the houses noted, this bore also supplies R.A.F. Station, Tuddenham.

It is very gratifying to note that in this rural area over 83% of all houses have a piped supply within their own curtilage.

The number of houses supplied in each parish and the comparable number supplied in 1951 and 1952 are shown in the table below.

It will be noted that an additional 15⁹ houses were supplied with a public supply during 1953 and an additional 15 from private supplies.

Parish.	Total Houses in parish as shown by Rate Book.	Houses with piped supplies.				% of Total number of houses in parish supplied by Council.	
		1953.	1951.	1952.	1953.		
Barton Mills.	169	106		116	132	63%	69% 78%
Brandon.	904	853		864	856	94%	96% 95%
Cavenham.	38	5(private)		5	13(5 private)	14%	14% 34%
Dalham.	90	51		51	65	58%	58% 72%
Elveden.	138	101		101	109(private)	74%	74% 79%
Eriswell.	99	69		69	74	68%	68% 75%
Freckenham with Red Lodge.	192	168		174	162	83%	89% 84%
Gazeley.	123	96		98	100	80%	80% 81%
Herringswell.	63	6		16	28	9%	25% 46%
Higham.	82	72	do.	76	72(private)	89%	89% 88%
Icklingham.	135	Nil		61	85	Nil	48% 63%
Kentford.	75	64		66	67	90%	90% 89%
Lakenheath (including Sedge Fen and Undley).	570	489		495	513	89%	89% 90%
Mildenhall, including West Row, Beck Row, Holywell Row.	1,257	931		979	1,023 R.D.C.)	77%	78% 81%
Moulton.	196	139		143	160	76%	76% 81%
Santon Downham.	88	67	do.	67	70(69 private)	78%	78% 80%
Tuddenham.	111	34		72	77	31%	66% 69%
Wangford.	10	Nil		Nil	5(private)	Nil	Nil 50%
Worlington.	115	87		91	105(4 private)	75%	78% 91%
	4,455	3,338		3,544	3,716(264 private 80 Ely R.D.C)	77%	80% 83%

The decreases recorded in the number of houses with a piped water supply in the parishes of Brandon, Freckenham with Red Lodge, and Higham are explained by factors including demolition of houses, conversion of two or more houses into one, demolition of hutments and disuse of caravan sites and revision of Rate Book.

Reports by Dr. Greenburgh, the Public Analyst, on chemical analyses carried out on the piped water supplies are on the following page.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS.

Eighty-eight samples were taken from the Council's mains at various points for bacteriological examination and of this number 86 were satisfactory. Nine samples were taken from four private sources, three of which were unsatisfactory. In one case two following samples showed satisfactory results. In the other two cases a supply from the mains was substituted.

EXTENSION TO PLANT AND WORKS.

During 1953 Ministerial approval was given which will allow the Council to supply the houses in the Dunstall Green area of Dalham from pipes laid by our Council taking the water from the mains of the Clare R.D.C. at the boundary.

In the middle of the year consent was received from the Ministry of Housing and Local Government to proceed with the construction of the 750,000 gallon reservoir at Codson Hill, referred to in my last report, the work was put in hand at once and by the end of the year this had been so far advanced that preparations were being made for covering in. In the meantime the 9" main to an adjoining Airfield, also referred to, had already been laid and the necessary Booster Station completed, the cost of which is being borne by the Air Ministry. Consent was also received from the Ministry of Housing and Local Government to replace the existing 9,000 gallon per hour pump with 20,000 gallon per hour installation, also mentioned, but owing to the manufacturers' difficulties this had not been delivered by the end of the year.

The proposals for the extension of the Brandon Waterworks, mentioned in my last report, consisting of a new bore hole and increased storage capacity, are still in the hands of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government.

It is understood the Department have not given approval on the grounds that the proposals were not necessary at the present time.

The Waterworks Superintendent has pointed out that it might be necessary in the summer to restrict the hours during which a supply was available if the present consumption of water increased proportionately.

The large number of new houses built in Brandon and the operation of the new public sewage system has meant that the consumption of water has greatly increased - an increase which will be even more marked with the completion of the sewer in High Street and Station Road. The erection of additional houses by the Swaffham R.D.C. in the parish of Weeting will result in an increased demand.

The average daily output (in thousand of gallons) during December 1953 was as follows:-

	<u>1953.</u>	<u>1952.</u>	<u>1951.</u>
Eriswell	211	195	173
Brandon	80	74	66
Moulton	64	45	37

There is no recording apparatus for the Tuddenham supply. The above figures show a 13% average increase in consumption over 1952.

	<u>1.</u> <u>Eriswell</u> <u>Bore.</u>	<u>2.</u> <u>Moulton</u> <u>Bore.</u>	<u>3.</u> <u>Brandon</u> <u>Dug Well.</u>	<u>4.</u> <u>Tuddenham</u> <u>Bore.</u>
Physical Characters.	Very slight deposit, otherwise good.	Good.	Good.	Very slight deposit, very faintly turbid, odourless.
Reaction.	pH 7.2	pH 7.1	pH 7.3	pH 7.2
The sample contained parts per 100,000				
Chloride	1.75	2.3	1.6	2.35
Ammonia (Free & Saline)	absent	absent	absent	0.0006
Ammonia (Albuminoid)	0.0004	0.0014	0.0008	0.0006
Oxygen absorbed in 3 hrs. at 37°C	0.0235	0.0228	0.0231	0.0214
Nitrates (expressed as Nitrogen)	0.25	0.75	0.20	0.45
Nitrites	absent	absent	absent	absent
Poisonous Metals	absent	absent	absent	absent
Total hardness	17.5	28.2	14.9	23.2

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION.

No. of microorganisms per ml. developing on Agar at 37°C	Coliform organism absent in 100 mls.	Coliform organisms absent in 100 mls.	Coliform organisms absent in 100 mls.	Coliform organisms absent in 100 mls.
No. of microorganisms per ml. developing on Agar at 21°C.	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

MICROSCOPICAL EXAMINATION OF DEPOSIT.

Mainly mineral matter.	None.	None.	Mainly mineral matter.
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INFERENCE.

The results obtained on the analysis of these samples do not show any evidence of pollution with harmful organic or inorganic matter. I am of opinion that these waters are fit for drinking purposes.

(ii) DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE. During the year at Brandon provision of drains was made to a further 40 houses owned by private individuals and the connection of these drains to the sewerage system. 40 of the 60 Council houses at Brandon that originally had pail closets had their closets converted and connected to the sewer prior to 1953. In 1953 the remaining 20 were similarly treated so that all are now connected to the sewer. By the 31st December, 1953, the following 759 houses (17% of the total number of houses in the District) had their drains connected to and discharging into modern sewerage disposal works.

	Council Houses.	Private Houses.	Hutments	
Brandon	165	390	89	
Moulton	24	-	-	
Lakenheath	-	1	17	
Santon Downham	-	46	-	
Mildenhall	-	-	25	
Gavenham	-	2	-	
				Grand Total: 759
	189	439	131	

At Brandon steady progress was made during the year with the new bridge. The length of sewer in Station Road between the Railway Crossing and the river was completed and the laterals laid. At the end of the year a start had been made on that part situated in High Street, south of the river and it is hoped that the Pumping Station, North of the river, will be nearing completion by the end of 1954. This will complete the second part of the scheme. The third part consisting of the Mile End area, lower London Road and part of Town Street, is postponed at the request of the Ministry to await further consideration.

Plans are being prepared by the Consulting Engineers to allow the new housing sites at Mildenhall and Lakenheath to have sewerage provided as part of the proposed comprehensive schemes which are eagerly awaited for these parishes. At Moulton 8 new Council houses were completed and connected to the sewage disposal plant on the Housing Site.

Cesspool Clearances. At the end of the year there were 892 cesspools on the Council's list for periodical clearance and 832 were cleared during the past year. Of this number 272 clearances were made without charge under the Council's scheme for this work. In order to deal with an accumulation of delayed clearances it was found necessary to enlist the assistance of the Thedwastre R.D.C's machine and staff on 9 occasions, covering a period of 15 days during the summer.

2. RIVERS AND STREAMS. These remained substantially the same as in previous years.

3. (i) CLOSET ACCOMMODATION. The number of pail closets at Mildenhall and Lakenheath remained practically the same until December when it was impossible to continue the clearance of closets in connection with 60 houses south of Brocm Road Corner, Lakenheath, owing to the illness of the contractor. Fortunately these houses all have large gardens. Temporary arrangements were made for the closets in the built-up area of the parish to be dealt with by the cesspool emptier and direct labour. Pail closets in the parish of Brandon have been further reduced through conversion and connections to sewers and the number on the Contractor's list at the end of the year has been brought down to 100. Conversions of pail closets to W.C.'s. during the year were:-

(1)	Brandon, connected to the sewer	60
(2)	In other parts of the area	19
(3)	As part of improvement scheme under 1949 Housing Act	1
(4)	At Council Houses	12
	Kenny Hill 8	
	Beck Row 2	
	Holywell Row 2	

Public Conveniences. Since my previous report the Council have recognised the need for a public convenience at Lakenheath, in addition to those provided at Mildenhall and Brandon. The Planning Authority's approval to the site selected is awaited.

(ii) PUBLIC CLEANSING. The alterations in the scheme, as indicated in my last report, were put into operation shortly after the commencement of the year. Two vehicles are now in operation, giving a twice monthly clearance of refuse in all parishes in the area previously having a monthly service. Weekly collections are made at Mildenhall, Brandon and Lakenheath as formerly. Salvage of saleable waste is combined with refuse collection and the amount of material sold was as under:-

Waste Paper - 32 tons, an increase of 5 tons on 1952.
Other materials, 18 tons, an increase of 3 tons on 1952.

As will be appreciated this service is one which continually increases and during the year new houses added to the work as under:-

Local Authority Houses - 59, including 17 family units provided at the old Land Army Hostel, Lakenheath.

Private, new houses - 47.

Private, conversions - 9.

TOTAL ADDITIONAL CLEARANCES - 115.

(iii) SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA. The following table summarises the work carried out by the two Sanitary Inspectors, Mr. Trotter and Mr. Banks:-

Inspection and re-inspection of houses under the

Public Health Act and Housing Act	329
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Council House Management	1,037
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Building Bye-laws	203
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Tents, vans, sheds, etc. (including Ex-W.D. and R.A.F. Camp taken over by Council)	45
--	----	----	----	----	----

Factories and Workshops	3
-------------------------	----	----	----	----	---

Shops and Offices	31
-------------------	----	----	----	----	----

School sanitation	4
-------------------	----	----	----	----	---

Drains, etc.	310
--------------	----	----	----	----	-----

Dairies	9
---------	----	----	----	----	---

Public Conveniences	57
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Disinfections and Disinfestations	37
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Interviews	308
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Nuisances	300
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Town and Country Planning Act	50
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140 Informal Notices served. Complied with - 112

5 Statutory Notices served. " " - 4 and 2 from 1952.

In addition 17 Time and Place Notices were served in respect of unfit houses. Conditional undertakings were accepted in 14 cases and Demolition Orders made in the remaining three cases.

Factory Act, 1937.

Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health.

Premises.	Number on Register.	Number of		
		Inspections.	Written Notices.	Occupiers Prosecuted.
(i) Factories (no power) in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authority.	12	1	Nil	Nil
(ii) Factories (with power) not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	58	4	Nil	Nil
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises).	12	Nil	Nil	Nil
	82	5	Nil	Nil

No defects were found.

(iv) SHOPS AND OFFICES. Thirty-one shops and offices were inspected during the year. In one case it was found necessary to take Statutory action in respect of the provision of washing facilities.

(v) CAMPING SITES. During the year one additional site was licenced. The total number of licenced sites at the end of the year was 65, providing accommodation for a maximum of 335 caravans. Towards the end of the year the demand for accommodation of this character lessened and the number in use fell considerably. Forty-five inspections were made during the year.

It was found necessary to continue to make use of the four Ex-Army and R.A.F. Camps at Brandon, Mildenhall, Freckenham and Tuddenham, although the policy of the Council is to re-house the occupiers as soon as practicable. During the year it was possible to reduce the number of these units by demolition of five hutments.

(vi) SMOKE ABATEMENT. No smoke nuisance was recorded during the year.

(vii) SWIMMING BATHS. There are no swimming baths in the District.

(viii) ERADICATION OF BED BUGS. No cases of bed bug infestation occurred in the District.

(ix) RAT DESTRUCTION. A second Rodent Operator was appointed early in the year - he does holiday relief duty in other departments. During 1953 the two operators treated 550 premises at which 2,449 bodies were recovered. The main poisons used were Zinc Phosphide, Warfarin and Antu. Arsenic and Red Squill were used in a small number of cases.

(x) LICENCED PREMISES. With very few isolated exceptions every licenced house is now provided with a washing sink and piped water supply adjacent to the public rooms. In some cases hot water is also provided. Most of the houses have been provided with a "central service" counter which has the advantage of making the cleansing facilities readily available for all sections.

(xi) THE RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951. There are no premises in the District which require registration or licensing under the above Act. The premises in the District which carry out upholstery work only carry out repair, re-making and reconditioning of articles and are therefore exempt from registration under Section 1(2)(a) of the Act.

SECTION D.
HOUSING.

1. (i) (a) Total number of houses inspected for defects under Public Health and Housing Acts	683
(b) Number of inspections made for purpose	1,057
(ii) Number of houses (included under Sub-Head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Consolidated) Regulations 1935.	12
(iii) Number of houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation.	17
(iv) Number of houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects fit for human habitation.	Private Council
	53 153
(v) Number of houses demolished during the year as the result of outstanding Demolition Orders.	5

2. Remedy of Defects during the year without service of Formal Notice.

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by Local Authority or their Officers:-

By Owners	112
By Council	15

House completely reconditioned by owners as shown in register of plans	11.
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Houses Erected During 1953.

New Council Houses	42
Private Houses	47
Council Conversions (all at Lakenheath)	17
Private "	9

Parishes in which houses were erected by the Council during the year were: Brandon 12, Gazeley 6, Mildenhall 16, Moulton 8.

Parish.	Total Houses in Parish.	C O U N C I L H O U S E S .			% of Houses in the Parish which are Council Houses.
		Total.	Pre-War.	War-Time Emergency Programme.	
Barton Mills.	169	26	14		15%
Brandon.	904	165	94		18%
Cavenham.	38				Nil
Dalham.	90				Nil
Elveden.	38				Nil
Eriswell.	99				Nil
Freckenham.	192	22	6		11%
Gazeley.	123	14			11%
Herringswell.	55	8		2	13%
Hingham.	82				Nil
Icklingham.	135	16	6		12%
Kentford.	75	12			16%
Lakenheath.	570	88	44	2	15%
Mildenhall.	1,257	160	80	2	13%
Moulton.	196	26			13%
Santon Downham.	88				Nil
Tuddenham.	111	22	14		20%
Wangford.	10				Nil
Worlington.	115	10	8		9%
	4,455	569	266	6	297 (42)
					13%

Figures in brackets indicate houses built during 1953.

Accusing Act, 1949. During the year applications were received in respect of financial assistance under the above Act for the improvement of 12 houses. Eight of these were approved by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government; one was considered by the Committee to be unsuitable for improvement and the remaining three were awaiting the Ministry's sanction at the end of the year.

SECTION E.
INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

- (a) MILK SUPPLY. The number of Retailers in the area is 11. Six of these hold licences for the sale of T.T. and Pasteurised milk.
- (b) MEAT AND OTHER FOODS. Throughout 1953 slaughtering for this District was carried out at the Ministry of Food Slaughter House, Newmarket.

During the year the undermentioned food was condemned as unfit for human consumption:-

Canned Milk	6 Cans
" Vegetables	17 "
" Fruit	84 "
" Meat	56 "
" Fish	13 "
Meat Pies	9
Cheese	4½ lbs.
Corned Beef	6 "
Liver	32 "
Pork	126 "
Mutton	33½ "
Beef	177 "

- {c) ADULTERATION, ETC.
{d) CHEMICAL & BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION.
{e) NUTRITION.
{f) SHELL-FISH.
{g) WATER-CRESS.

No change.

SECTION F.

PREVALENCE OF & CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

The total number of confirmed infectious disease cases notified was 512 (compare table below). There were 5 deaths from Pneumonia and 1 from Meningococcal Infection and Infective Hepatitis.

Year.	Scarlet Fever.	Whooping Cough.	Acute Poliomyelitis.	Measles.	Diphtheria.	Pneumonia.	Dysentery.	Erysipelas.	Meningococcal Infection.	Food Poisoning.	Puerperal Pyrexia.	Ophthalmia Neonatorum.	Infective Hepatitis.	Undulant Fever.	Malaria.	Infectious Disease Deaths.	Total Cases.
1953.	A 46	HB 91	C 2	HD 322	E -	F 47	G -	H 1	I -	J -	K -	L -	M -	N -	O 0	P 3 (5F1I1M)	512
1952.	15	37	1	120	-	31	-	1	3	1	1	-	-	-	-	9 (8F1H)	210
1951.	3	22	1	49	-	19	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	8 (8F)	97
1950.	24	27	-	116	-	11	-	6	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	6 (6F)	187
1949.	10	1	1	301	-	6	-	2	-	H	-	-	2	-	-	6 (6F)	324
1948.	21	109	-	11	-	6	-	1	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	7 (7F)	150
1947.	27	33	1	54	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7 (7F)	121
1946.	9	8	-	3	-	3	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	7 (7F)	25
1945.	8	8	-	43	1	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6 (1D5F)	62
1944.	1	3	-	30	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	2 (2F)	39
1943.	2	3	-	6	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2 (2F)	14
1942.	4	16	-	15	1	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	4 (2F2K)	38
1941.	14	23	-	88	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4 (1D1E2F)	135
1940.	17	41	-	12	3	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7 (1B1E5F)	75
1939.	65	-	-	1	2	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	6 (5F1K)	70
1938.	9	-	-	-	4	-	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	5 (4F1K)	17
1937.	12	-	-	1	4	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	2	-	1 3 (1C1F1K)	25
1936.	11	-	-	1	4	-	1	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	3 (3F)	19

x Measles and Whooping Cough were only made notifiable from October 1939.

§ Infective Hepatitis became notifiable in 1943.

The first Diphtheria Immunisations were completed in 1941.

Scarlet Fever. Not since 1939 have so many Scarlet Fever cases occurred in one year in our District - fortunately all these cases were of very mild nature.

Whooping Cough. The 91 cases notified is more than in any year since 1947 - Research is still being vigorously pursued to obtain a vaccine suitable for use by local authorities.

Acute Poliomyelitis. Although neither of the notified cases proved fatal, much sympathy is felt for the 26 year old married lady and the 5 year old boy who were each left with some paralysis.

Measles. 322 cases - a record annual figure since notification commenced in 1939 - occurred, 197 in the first quarter of the year, 119 in the second, and only 6 in the last six months of the year. It will be noted that only 10 of these 322 cases had reached the age of 10 years or more.

Diphtheria. For the eighth successive year no case of Diphtheria occurred in the District. Parents should continue to make sure that their children are protected from this disease - this can be effected very simply by immunisation which is provided free of charge.

Pneumonia. Apart from the child of two months that died, all the remaining 4 deaths from Pneumonia were in elderly persons with other pathological conditions.

Meningococcal Infection and Infective Hepatitis. Neither of the patients who died from these conditions was notified prior to their decease.

During the year there were NO CASES of:-

Acute Encephalitis, Dysentery, Ophthalmia Neonatorum, Puerperal Pyrexia, Smallpox, Paratyphoid, Typhoid Fever or Food Poisoning.

ALL NOTIFYABLE DISEASES (other than Tuberculosis) DURING 1953.

	Scarlet Fever.	Whooping Cough.	Poliomyelitis	Measles.	Pneumonia.	Erysipelas.	Malaria.
Grand Total: M., F.	M., F.	M., F.	M., F.	M., F.	M., F.	M., F.	M., F.
512 277 235							
Age: Under 1 year,	- -	4 5	- -	5 3	--	--	--
1 year.	2 1	5 2	- -	14 14	--	--	--
2 years.	1 1	2 4	- -	10 12	--	--	--
3 "	2 2	4 8	- -	26 15	- 1	--	--
4 "	4 2	8 4	- -	20 18	--	--	--
5 "	3 5	10 10	1 -	29 31	1 1	--	--
6 "	5 4	11 5	- -	24 24	2 1	--	--
7 "	2 -	2 3	- -	13 13	1 -	--	--
8 "	- 1	- 2	- -	19 7	1 -	--	--
9 "	1 -	- -	- -	... 5	1 -	--	--
10 to 14 yrs.	4 3	1 1	- -	3 2	- 1	--	--
15 to 24 "	- 3	- -	- -	- 1	--	--	1 -
25 to 44 "	1 -	- -	- -	1 4	6 5	--	- 1
45 to 64 "	- -	- -	- -	- -	6 5	--	1 -
65 years & over.	- -	- -	- -	- -	8 7	- 1	--
Totals:	24 22	47 44	1 1	177 145	26 21	- 1	2 1

T U B E R C U L O S I S .NEW CASES AND MORTALITY.NEW CASES.

	<u>1953.</u>	<u>1952.</u>	<u>1951.</u>	<u>1950.</u>
Pulmonary:	8	7	16	19
Non-Pulmonary:	2	4	3	4
	10	11	19	23

Ages of Cases notified in 1953:

Pulmonary: Males 7, 25, 26, 27 & 54 years.
 Females, 5, 20 & 52 years.

Non-Pulmonary: Male, 2 years.
 Female, 15 years.

MORTALITY.

The Tuberculosis deaths during 1953 were

Pulmonary, Male, 8 months (No notification previous to death).
 " 54 years.

Non-Pulmonary, Female, 40 years.

TUBERCULOSIS REGISTER.

	<u>Pulmonary.</u>		<u>Non-Pulmonary.</u>		<u>Total.</u>	
	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>
1. Number of cases on Register at commencement of 1953.	26	23	11	10	37	33
2. Number of cases notified for the first time during the year under Regulations.	5	3	1	1	6	4
3. Cases restored to Register.	--	--	--	--	--	--
4. Cases added to Register otherwise than by notification under Regulations						
(a) Transferred from other Districts	-	1	-	-	-	1
(b) From Death Returns	-	-	-	-	-	-
5. Number of cases removed from Register.	5	2	2	5	7	7
6. Number of Cases remaining on Register at the end of 1953.	26	25	10	6	36	31

Cases remaining on the Register at end of year.

<u>Year.</u>	<u>Total.</u>	<u>Pulmonary.</u>		<u>Non-Pulmonary.</u>	
		<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>
1953.	67	26	25	10	6
1952.	70	26	23	11	10
1951.	65	24	24	8	9
1950.	50	15	21	7	7

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948. Section 47. It was necessary during the year to apply to the Magistrates for an order, which was given, to have an elderly lady removed to St. Mary's Hospital, Bury St. Edmunds, for her care and protection. She was deemed unable to take care of herself. During her detention in Hospital her home was cleaned and decorated and she was able to return home after a few weeks.

